JACOB): (a) and (b). The A & N Administration received a letter dated 15.3.91 from the Andaman and Nicobar Motor Vehicles Drivers Union containing the following demands:-

i) Immediate release of all withheld licenses.

ii) Changing of licensing authority to civil officer.

iii) Harassment of drivers by Traffic Police Personnel who are doing quite a number of challans, may be stopped.

These demands were considered by the A & N Administration and the same were not found to be justifiable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

Adoption of Advance Technology by SAIL

5026. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new technology in production of steel is proposed to be adopted by the Steel Authority of India;

(b) if so, whether SAIL is seeking interaction with the Technology, Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council for advance technology; and

(c) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Introduction of upto date technology is a continuous process in the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and therefore it is inevitable that new technologies in steel production would continue to be adopted thereat.

(b) and (c). Though SAIL are not seeking any assistance from the Technology, Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) for selection and introduction of new technology, interactions do take place. SAIL has been selected by TIFAC for creating a data base for iron and steel technologies, and have also prepared reports at the request of TIFAC.

[*Translation*]

Free Ration Facility For Police Personnel In Union Territories

5027. SHRI B.L. SHARMA PREM: SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the police personnel are provided with free ration facility in some Union Territories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this facility has been provided to Delhi Police personnel; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) and (b). Only 45 police personnel, who are posted at look out posts situated in uninhabited islands of Andaman & Nicobar Administration are being paid free ration facility or Rs. 183/- per month in lieu thereof. No such facility is available to the Police Personnel of other Union Territories.

(c) and (d). No proposal to provide free ration facility to Delhi Police personnel is under consideration of the Government.

[*English*]

Irrigation Projects in Tamil Nadu

5028. SHRI R. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu pending with the Union Government; and

(b) the time by which those are likely to 6 cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). A statement giving the details of new major and medium irrigation projects in Tamil Nadu with Union Government and their status of techno-economic appraisal is attached.